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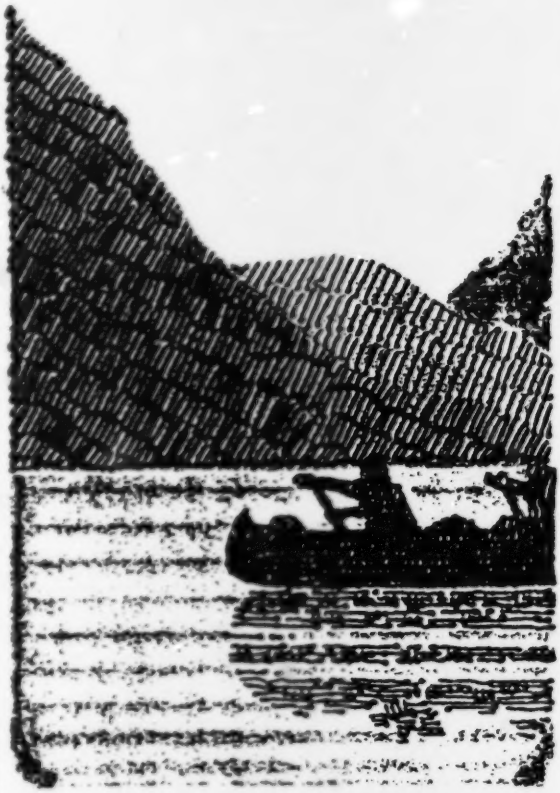
ANNUAL REPORT 1988-1989



Ministry of Parks

Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Parks
Hon. Ivan Messmer, Minister

BC Parks

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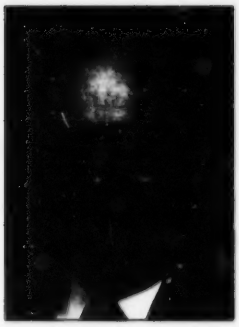
To His Honour
The Lieutenant Governor of the
Province of British Columbia

May It Please Your Honour:

Herewith, I respectively submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Parks for the period April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989, during which time the Hon. Terry Huberts was Minister.



Hon.Ivan Messmer,
Minister of Parks

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Ivan Messmer
Minister of Parks

Honourable Ivan Messmer
Minister of Parks

Sir:

I have the honour to submit the annual report of the British Columbia Ministry of Parks for the period from April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989.

Stephen R. Stackhouse,
Associate Deputy
Minister

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Stackhouse
Associate Deputy Minister
Ministry of Parks

ANNUAL REPORT 1988-1989

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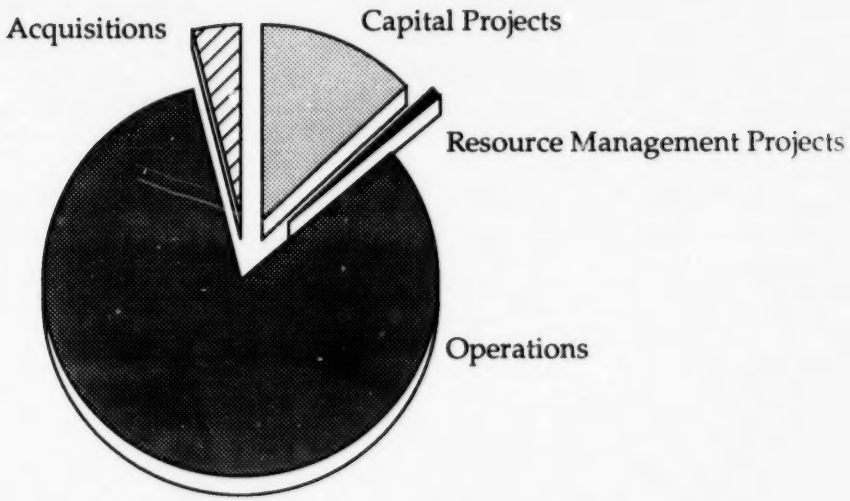
Budget Summary



Capital Projects	4,371,000
Resource Management Projects	310,000
Operations	27,430,000
Parks Vote Total	**$32,111,000**
Crown Land Fund (Acquisitions)	1,280,000
TOTAL	**$33,391,000**

Ministry Overview

During 1988/89 the Government provided an increased emphasis on protection and management of British Columbia's natural heritage. It created a new Ministry to manage the Park and Ecological Reserves Acts to recognize the importance of this legislation in the Province.

Parkland was given its greatest protection ever with new policies announced by the Minister. The new mineral exploration policy prohibits mineral exploration or development within parks in the future.

The Minister also announced that any initiatives that require changes to boundaries will be reviewed and discussed with the public before the boundaries are legislated.

New areas being considered for park status will be evaluated under strict guidelines for mineral potential prior to being designated as a provincial park.

As proof of commitment, 22 recreation areas were upgraded to park status, resulting in 207,122 hectares of new fully protected parkland for use by the public in perpetuity.

In the area of park operations, a three-year program to have all auto-accessible provincial park day-use areas and campgrounds maintained by private sector contractors began. This expanded a very successful program of contracting of park operations and maintenance services which began in 1983.

B.C. Parks firmly retains management control of the provincial park system. It sets standards of performance, campground fees, and retains ownership of land and facilities while contractors provide services. Contractors

- *No mining. No logging.*
- *Legislate park boundaries.*
- *Evaluation before designation.*

collect fees and reduce their contract price through campground revenues.

Twenty-eight operations permits were issued under this program for services in 47 parks. Services in an additional 105 parks will be contracted out in 1989/90. Out of 184 parks with campgrounds or day-use areas which could be reached by road, 152 will have services delivered through operational contracts in 1989.

Funding for park operations increased to $27.4 million, after holding operational costs at about $25.5 million over the last three years. These funds were used to manage new park areas and to extend the operating season in many popular parks around the Province.

Replacing, repairing and upgrading park facilities requires greater funding as park facilities grow older. In 1988, an additional $2 million was allocated to these activities, including a $1-million per year program to upgrade heavily used washroom buildings with modern facilities and showers, a continual concern expressed in visitor surveys.

Mandate

B.C. Parks is responsible for the designation, management and conservation of a land- and water-based system of parks, recreation areas and ecological reserves containing the best representative elements of British Columbia's natural and cultural heritage for the inspiration and recreational use of British Columbians and their visitors.

The Ministry also represents the outdoor recreation interests of British Columbians in the allocation and use of land resources throughout the province.

B.C. Parks services are delivered throughout B.C. through 12 District Parks offices and the Ministry manages activities in three program areas: Provincial Parks, Ecological Reserves and Outdoor Recreation Services.

Legislation Administered:

Park Act
Ecological Reserves Act
Park (Regional) Act

Our mission is: to protect and manage for public benefit and use outstanding examples of British Columbia's natural and cultural environment.

British Columbia
Provincial Park System

B.C. Parks

On March 31, 1989, the Provincial Park System contained 379 parks and recreation areas covering 5,364,000 hectares. B.C. Parks managed facilities with a value of approximately $300 million. The number of visitors in 1988 increased four per cent over 1987 to 19,642,000 recorded visits.

Park Lands

Approximately $1,050,000 was spent on the acquisition of park lands. In 1988, a total of 1,289 hectares of Class A parkland were added to the park system. In addition, the Legislature upgraded 207,122 hectares of recreation area to Class A park to provide full protection from resource exploration. Highlights are:

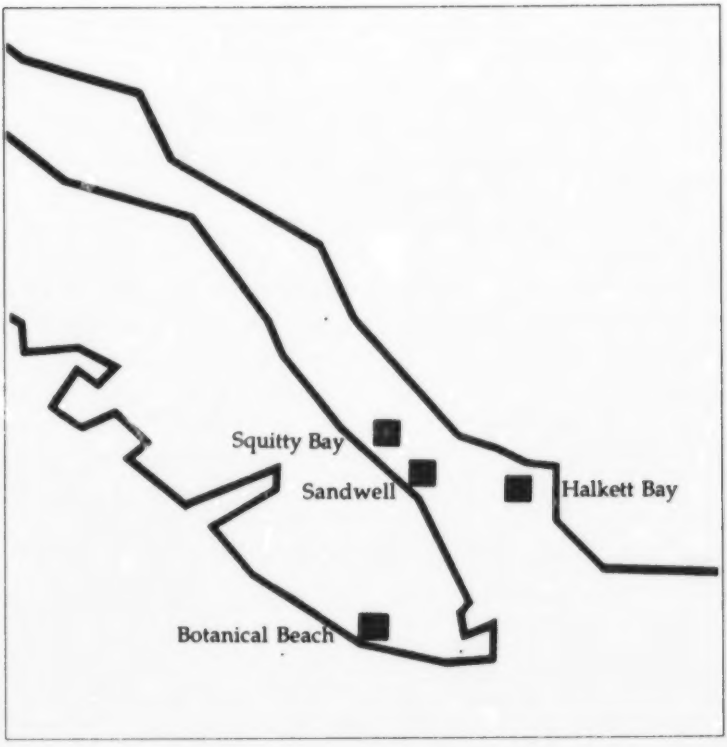
1. Near Kamloops, 260 hectares of land on the Thompson River for the planned *Juniper Beach Park* were jointly purchased with the Recreational Fisheries Branch of the Ministry of Environment.
2. Eleven parcels of privately owned lands within existing parks were purchased in *Tweedsmuir* (4), *Cape Scott* (1), *Naikoon* (5), and *Goldstream* (1).
3. $14,600 was spent on acquiring land for Pacific Rim Park.
4. One trap line area was purchased to eliminate trapping in *Kakwa Recreation Area* in the Northern Rocky Mountains.

Four new areas were designated as Class A Provincial Parks:

- *Halkett Bay Park* is a marine park located in Howe Sound on the south end of Gambier Island. This 309-hectare park was purchased in 1988;
- *Sandwell Park* features a sand beach on Gabriola Island where some of the lands were donated through subdivision in 1988;

- *379 parks*
- *5.3 million hectares*
- *Assets worth $300 million*

- *New parks were created at:*
- *Halkett Bay;*
- *Sandwell;*
- *Squitty Bay;*
- *Botanical Beach.*



B.C. Provincial Parks
Created in 1988/89

- *Squitty Bay* is a marine park on Lasqueti Island purchased by the Nature Trust in 1987. This non-profit corporation leased seven hectares to B.C. Parks as a park for 99 years; and,

- *Botanical Beach Park*, near Port Renfrew on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, was initially established as a marine study area by the University of Minnesota in early 1900s. Some of the lands were purchased by the Nature Trust and leased as parkland for 99 years.

To more completely protect the park resources, foreshore areas were added to 12 lake shore parks in the Okanagan. In *Manning Park* four mineral reserves were purchased to allow a further 109 hectares of land to be upgraded to Class A parkland.

Changes to the Provincial Park System
1988/89 Fiscal Year

New Parks/Recreation Areas	AREA (ha)		AREA (ha)
Halkett Bay Park	309	Squitty Bay Park	7
Sandwell Park	12	Botanical Beach Park	353
TOTAL			**681**

Additions to Existing Parks/Recreation Areas

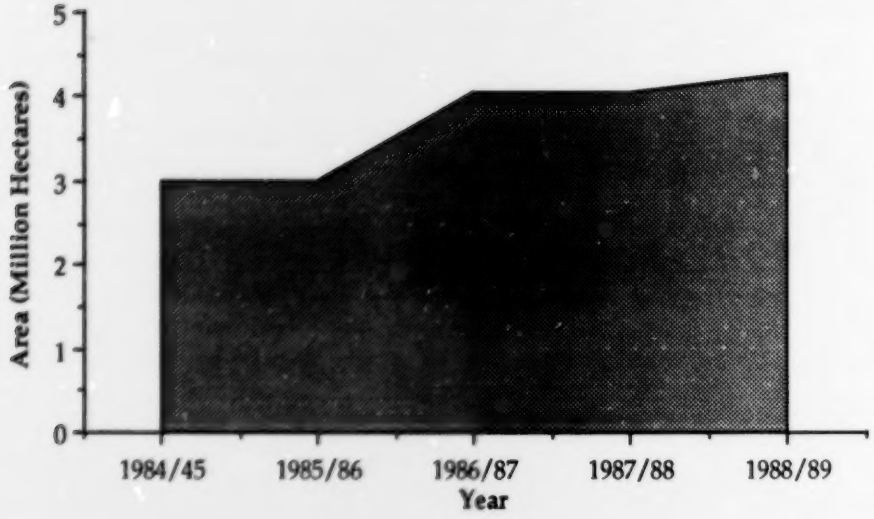
Shuswap Lk Marine Park	185	Okanagan Mountain Park	80
Antlers Beach Park	6	Ellison Park	19
Bear Creek Park	11	Okanagan Lake Park	18
Haynes Point	25	Cinnemousun Narrows	26
Kalamalka Lake	88	Saltery Bay Park	30
Mabel Lake Park	5	Manning Park	109
Vaseux Lake	6		
TOTAL			**608**
TOTAL AREA ADDED TO SYSTEM			**1,289**

Recreation Areas Upgraded to Class "A" Parks

Blanket Creek	316	Newcastle Island	30
Gabriola Sands	5	Niskonlith Lake	238
Green Lake	347	Octopus Island	43
International Ridge	1,905	Pennask Lake	244
Kentucky-Alleyne	144	Roderick Haig-Brown	988
Kootenay Lake	43	Silver Star	8,714
Loveland Bay	30	Sunnybrae	25
Manning	21	Kokanee Glacier*	25,832
Mansons Landing	53	Tweedsmuir*	64,260
Mt. Judge Howay	6,180	Wells Gray*	484
Mt. Seymour	450	Mt. Edziza*	96,770
TOTAL			**207,122**

* Part of Recreation Area Only

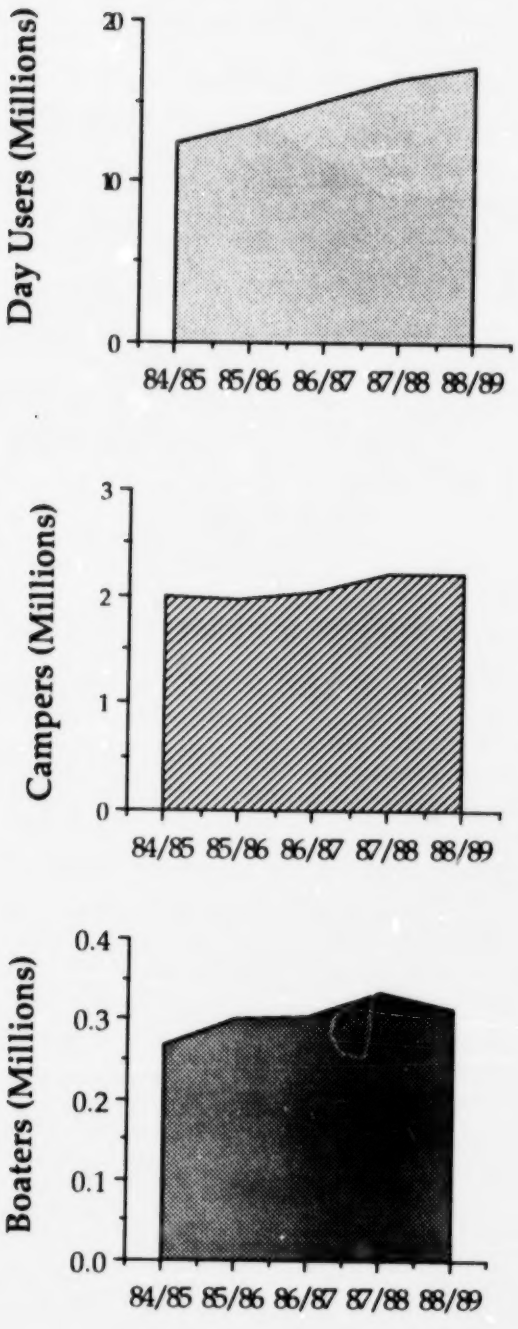
Class A Parks



Park System as of March 31, 1989

TYPE	NUMBER	AREA
Class "A"	311	4,247,855
Class "B"	1	450
Class "C"	30	953
Recreation Area	36	984,104
Wilderness Conservancy	1	131,523
TOTALS	**379**	**5,364,885**

Visitor Trends



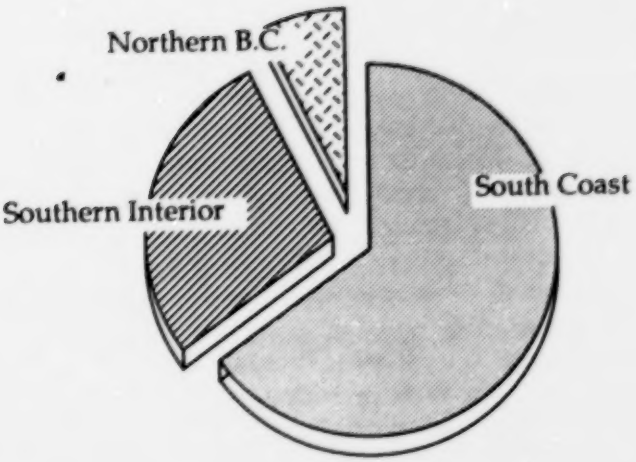
Park Use

Visits to B.C. Parks increased in 1988 by four per cent from 1987 reaching a total of over 19.6 million visitor days, the highest level ever recorded. This increase was largely due to increases in visits to day-use areas, although more than 2.2 million people camped in the 11,000 sites throughout the system. Campground revenue totalled approximately $3.7 million.

Park visitor satisfaction was monitored and tabulated in 79 areas of the provincial park system. Surveys were conducted in 49 campgrounds, 24 day-use areas, three backcountry areas, and three marine parks. More than 8,500 park visitors (58 per cent) offered opinions on services and facilities in provincial parks. Marine parks were given the highest overall rating (of excellent or above average) at 96 per cent by visitors who were asked if they would recommend a park to a friend. The overall rating of excellent or above average for campground users was 81 per cent, while day-use areas and backcountry areas were 86 per cent and 84 per cent respectively.

Visitor Programs were provided in 44 provincial parks, with private contractors delivering programs in 29 of these. Nearly 400,000 visitors enjoyed programs about the park system, conservation, safety, resource interpretation and recreational skill development. Special events, such as the *Miracle Beach* sandcastle contest and *Mt. Robson Park's* 75th Birthday, were attended by over 53,000 visitors. Lord Tweedsmuir, the grandson of the park's namesake, joined in the celebration of *Tweedsmuir Park's* 50th birthday.

- *19.6 million visitors*
- *2.2 million campers in 11,000 sites*



Volunteers

	Number	Increase over 1987	Donated Time (Hours)	Increase over 1987
South Coast	1,726	118%	56,794	615%
Southern Interior	363	-9%	24,436	53%
Northern B.C.	99	24%	6,324	43%

The Jerry's Rangers Program was widely adopted across the park system in 1988. Jerry the Moose, the B.C. Parks mascot, was featured in eight colourful stickers and a Jerry's Rangers certificate which youngsters earn after learning about parks. For example, a "Nature Nut" sticker is given to youngsters who can identify animals and plants found in the park they are visiting.

Park publications were distributed to the public throughout British Columbia at over 146 Tourism Travel Infocentres. More than 60 publications followed three basic formats:

- regional brochures, identifying park locations and amenities in Vancouver Island; the Lower Mainland; Cariboo, Okanagan and Shuswap areas; the Kootenays and Northern British Columbia;
- park brochures which describe individual park opportunities and features; and,
- publications about nature that may be found within provincial parks.

Volunteers provided valuable services to park visitors. The number of volunteers almost doubled in 1988, with more than 2,100 people contributing over 87,000 hours. Volunteers contributed to many diverse projects such as the salmon program at *Goldstream Park*, the 75th Birthday celebrations at *Mt. Robson*, and trail maintenance at *Silver Star Recreation Area*. The volunteer program cost B.C. Parks $106,814.

The **Park Host Program**, where volunteers camp on site for the summer and provide information about the park and surrounding area, proved popular and beneficial to users who

may be unfamiliar with the park. More than 200 park hosts assisted visitors in 81 parks during 1988.

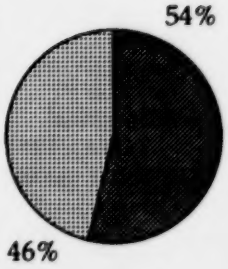
Park rangers recorded 67,203 patrol hours and responded to 23,652 occurrences in 1988. The number of disturbances decreased from 9,970 in 1987 to 6,350 in 1988. Incidents of theft and injuries to visitors were also reduced this year through an increased emphasis on visitor security.

In backcountry areas of parks, rangers ensured visitors enjoyed the wilderness areas while adhering to regulations of the Park Act which protect and conserve the backcountry ecology. Rangers also watched for fires and participated in search and rescue missions as required. They also carried out routine maintenance.

To ensure residents and tourists were aware of park opportunities, several **promotional activities** were conducted in 1988. They started with radio ads during May in both B.C. and Alberta, and were followed by smaller, local radio contests and active local promotions by parks staff.

Two major holiday prize contests were arranged in Vancouver and Victoria with radio stations CKWX and C-FAX. Contract operators provided the prizes of holiday trips in provincial parks.

The Ministry of Parks developed three promotional projects with the private sector in 1988. Shell Canada printed and distributed 150,000 copies of B.C. Park's regional brochures. In addition, staff worked with Beautiful B.C. Magazine to produce a special issue (Spring 1989) devoted entirely to provincial parks. Thirdly, a cooperative project with the Knowledge Network Public Broadcasting Corporation produced short video films of *Spatsizi Plateau* and North *Tweedsmuir Parks*. As a result, the public may view programs about eight different park areas in the "B.C. Moments" spots on the Knowledge Network. Similar videos on *Naikoon* and *Hakai Parks* are planned in 1989.



A 1988 survey shows more than half the people in British Columbia visited a provincial park at least once that year.

Park Management — Yearly Comparison

	86/87	87/88	88/89
VISITS:			
Campground Use	2,028,637	2,226,992	2,205,366
Day Use	15,126,906	16,473,431	17,124,167
Boating Use	302,438	333,827	312,483
TOTAL VISITS[1]	**17,457,981**	**19,034,250**	**19,642,016**
REVENUE ($000):			
Campground	3,552	4,108	3,735
Park Use Permits & Concessions	214	239	863
TOTALS	**3,766**	**4,347**	**4,598**
EXPENDITURES ($000):			
CROWN LAND FUND:			
Land Acquisition	92	2,732	1,280
PARKS VOTE:			
Resource Management Project	N/A	N/A	310
Capital Projects	2,575	2,415	4,371
Operations	25,858	25,829	27,430
TOTALS	**28,525**	**30,976**	**33,391**
Adjusted Operation[2]	28,508	26,819	27,430
Adjusted Total[2]	**31,479**	**32,140**	**33,391**
STAFFING (PERSON YEARS):			
Yearly	301	268	244
Seasonal	244	218	175
TOTALS	**545**	**486**	**419**
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INDICATORS:			
Park Hectares (thousand)[3]	4,792.6	5,361.6	5,364.7
BC Population (thousand)[4]	2,899.2	2,925.7	2,984.0
Park area per resident (hectares)	1.65	1.82	1.80
Park investment/resident (adjusted)	10.89	10.98	11.19
Important landscapes represented	35/57	36/57	41/57
Important Management plans completed	36/70	40/70	45/92
VISITOR SERVICES INDICATORS:			
Visitors per staff man year	32,033	39,165	46,878
Operation cost/visitor (adjusted)	1.63	1.40	1.40
Visitors/campsite[5]	56	61	61

[1] Visitation is for calendar year ending in fiscal year.
[2] Expenditures adjusted for inflation to 87/88 fiscal Vancouver C.P.I.
[3] Hectares for calendar year ending in fiscal year.
[4] Central Statistics Bureau, Projection 15, April 89, as of June 1 of the year stated.
[5] Camper party nights divided by campsites.

Managing Park Resources

The Government established the Strathcona Park Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Peter Larkin, and charged it with reviewing resource management use and boundary changes in *Strathcona Park*. The Committee held public hearings on Vancouver Island and in Vancouver and received almost 400 written and oral submissions.

The Advisory Committee report "Restoring the Balance", released September 1, 1988, recommended new boundaries, no new mineral exploration in the park, further public discussion on master planning and final boundaries defined in legislation. The Strathcona Park Steering Committee was subsequently established to determine and pursue how and to what extent Larkin's recommendations can be implemented with full public participation.

Master plans directing management activities were approved for *Valhalla, Rathtrevor* and *Desolation Sound Marine Parks*. As well, interim management statements, short term guidelines for park and recreation area development and management have been approved for *Elk Lakes Park and Recreation Area* and *Akamina-Kishinena Recreation Area*. B.C. Parks pledged to make a greater effort to involve the public in park planning activities in the future. The first example of this policy was public meetings which examined proposed boundary changes for *Garibaldi Park*.

There were five major changes in the resource/park use permit revenues returned to the province in the 1988/89 fiscal year.

1. Management of *Barkerville* and *Fort Steele Historic Parks* was transferred to the

- ❑ *Steps taken to Restore the Balance in Strathcona Park.*
- ❑ *Four Master Plans approved.*

Operational Permits Program

ADMINISTRATING OFFICE	NUMBER OF PARKS		
	Number Contracted 88/89	Total to be Contracted 89/90	Total to be Contracted 90/91
Strathcona District	0	14	16
Malahat District	0	13	21
Fraser Valley District	4	9	12
Garibaldi/Sunshine District	0	6	9
SOUTH COAST REGION TOTALS	**4**	**42**	**58**
Thompson River District	8	20	20
Okanagan District	12	16	17
West Kootenay District	4	18	19
East Kootenay District	10	15	16
SOUTHERN INTERIOR REGION TOTALS	**34**	**69**	**72**
Skeena District	4	9	13
Cariboo District	4	11	14
Prince George District	0	4	9
Peace/Liard District	1	17	18
NORTHERN BC REGION TOTALS	**9**	**41**	**54**
PROVINCIAL TOTALS	**47**	**152**	**184**

Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture. These contained 15 concessions and returned approximately $61,000 in revenues in 1987. Park use permit revenues are reduced by that amount this year.

2. Revenue reductions were more than offset by extraordinary revenue, in the amount of $451,058, resulting from royalty payments for the removal of insect infested trees from *Silver Star Recreation Area*. Tree removal and sale was conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Forests.

3. Revenue returned to the province from permits for ski-area concessions increased $41,000 to just over $157,000 for 1988.

4. The new operational permit program, where contractors operate parks and retain campground fee revenues, resulted in a return to government of $71,600 as payment for the operation permits in three parks.

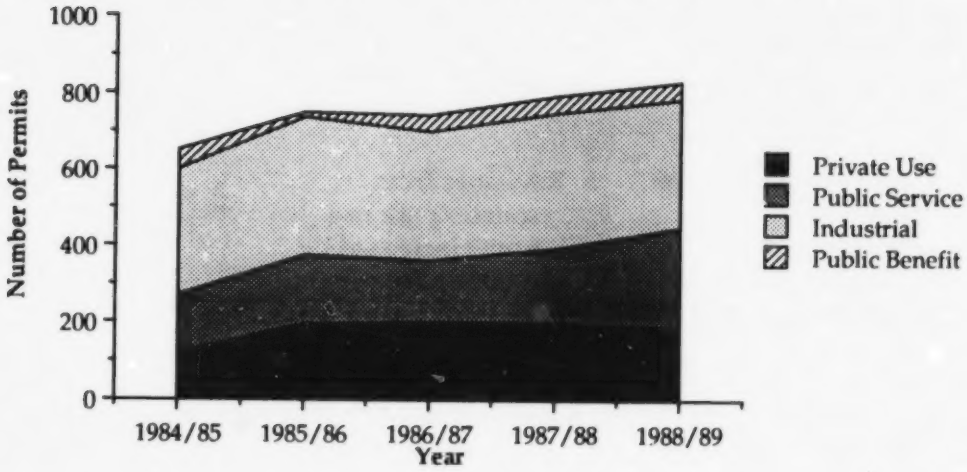
5. Revenues from resource/park use permits increased by $91,000 or 260 per cent over 1987, due to a five per cent increase in the number of permits issued and major increase in permit fees for 1988.

Overall, revenues returned to government resulting from either park use permits or resource use permits amounted to $863,000, compared to $239,000 in the 1987/88 fiscal year.

B.C. Parks performed a wide range of management activities to conserve park resources for present and future users. Highlights of major projects in 1988 follow:

1. A three-year study of caribou in *Wells Grey Park* was completed which will provide valuable management

Resource/Park Use Permits



TYPE	84/85	85/86	86/87	87/88	88/89
Private Purposes (cabins, access roads, etc.)	117	195	203	197	187
Public Service (guiding, resorts, etc.)	151	178	159	196	261
Industrial/Commercial Use (pipelines, transmission lines, etc.)	334	362	338	355	337
Provincial or National Public Benefit (scientific research, movies, etc.)	47	15	45	45	48
TOTALS	**649**	**750**	**745**	**793**	**833**

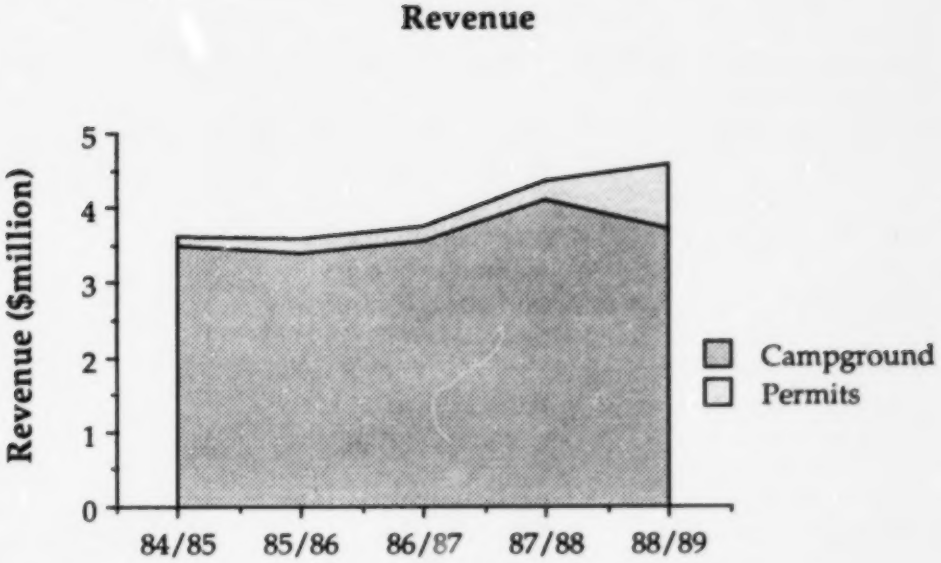
information to maintain this large omnivores habitat.

2. On Sidney Island, the large populations of fallow deer introduced years ago by the Island's major land owner have left severely damaged vegetation in *Sidney Spit Park*. B.C. Parks erected fencing, initiated a vegetation monitoring program, and conducted a deer census as part of a multi-year program to restore the natural conditions in the park.

3. In *Akamina-Kishinena*, *Top of the World*, and the Atnarko River area of *Tweedsmuir Park*, three management plans were completed to assist in the reduction of conflicts between park visitors and grizzly bears. These plans identify areas of the park where bears are likely to concentrate and traverse during critical times of the year. With these plans, managers are better equipped to inform users and develop trails and facilities that minimize possible conflicts.

4. An experimental method of spruce budworm control was undertaken in *Paul Lake Park* which involved B.t., a biological control agent rather than an insecticide. Although more expensive, this particular type of control is harmless to park users and non-target species of plant and wildlife. A 70 per cent success rate was attained in reducing the budworm attack in the campground and day-use areas.

5. *Manning Park's* lodgepole pine trees have been attacked by the mountain pine beetle. It spreads rapidly through forests killing trees as if by fire. A control program by parks staff in cooperation with Forestry Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Forests has prevented the spread of the insect outbreak, saving many


Revenue
Revenue ($million)
5
4
3
2
1
0
84/85
85/86
86/87
87/88
88/89
Campground
Permits

hundreds of trees which are highly valued for their aesthetic appeal surrounding the high use core of *Manning Park.*

6. In *Champion Lakes Park* near Trail, Eurasian Milfoil, an introduced aquatic weed, threatened to choke the warm water swimming and boating lakes. A successful control program conducted by the Ministry of Environment over the last five years, which involved blocking out the sun with opaque heavy plastic and divers pulling out weeds by hand, has effectively eradicated this problem plant.

B.C. Parks Facilities Highlights

	South Coast	Southern Interior	Northern B.C.	**Provincial Total**
Campsites	4,632	3,806	2,924	**11,362**
Picnic Tables	1,893	1,910	1,043	**4,846**
Water Systems	59	59	63	**181**
Boat Ramps	28	46	44	**118**
Developed Beaches (m)	26,500	29,480	9,583	**65,563**
Paved Roads (km)	100	87	57	**244**
Gravel Roads (km)	168	226	113	**507**
Hiking Trails (km)	939	1,339	735	**3,013**
Ski Trails (km)	202	177	54	**433**

Developing and Upgrading Parks

- *$4.4 million to upgrade facilities*
- *Focus on protecting the environment*

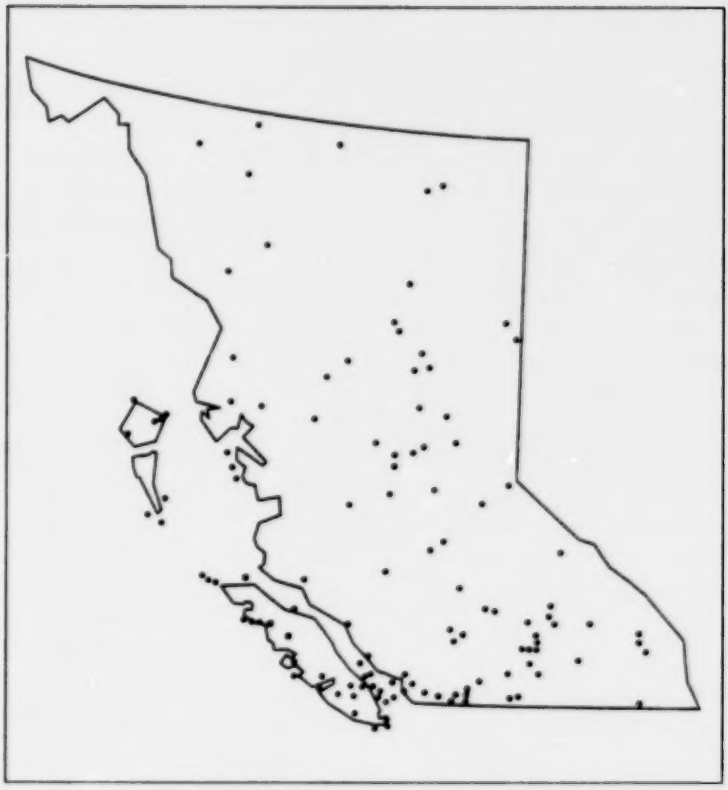
In 1988, the government increased capital maintenance funds by $2 million to ensure park facilities are safe and convenient for park users. A total of $4.4 million, including this increased fund, was spent on projects aimed at maintaining and upgrading facilities. No funds were expended on new facility development.

This is the first year of a multi-year program aimed at spending an average $1 million per year to upgrade washroom buildings with showers and/or modern toilet facilities. In 1988 toilet-building enhancements worth $1.1 million were completed in *Golden Ears, Kikomun, Shuswap, Herald, Lac Le Jeune, Mount Robson* and *Barkerville Parks.*

A total of $3.3 million, $1.9 million more than in 1987, was spent on projects undertaken to ensure the continuing health and safety of park visitors and staff. They included improvements to sewage and water systems and road repairs.

In 1988, users of B.C. Parks were major beneficiaries of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing's Environment Youth Program. The program provided an opportunity for youths, 17 to 24 years in age, to work on a variety of outdoor recreation and environmental enhancement projects. Projects within B.C. Parks accounted for over one-half of the $2-million program and included trail improvements, recreation facility development such as shelters and horseshoe pits, and many fish and wildlife habitat enhancements.

- *New Ecological Reserves were created at:*
  - *Pine, Storm and Tree Islands (Duke of Edinburgh);*
  - *Nimpkish River;*
  - *Tashish River.*



British Columbia Ecological Reserves

Ecological Reserves Management Yearly Comparison

	86/87	87/88	88/89
Number of Reserves	117	117	117
Area of Reserves (000 ha)	154.6	154.6	155.2
Number of Wardens	59	62	73
Number of Research and Educational Permits	36	40	45

Ecological Reserves

Ecological reserves are set aside to preserve samples of representative, rare or endangered ecosystems of British Columbia. They offer long-term research and educational opportunities as well as casual, non-consumptive public uses, such as nature photography and bird watching.

Ecological Reserve Lands

Three new reserves were established in 1988. The 18-hectare *Nimpkish River Ecological Reserve* was created to preserve a stand of exceptionally tall Douglas firs, while the 70-hectare *Tashish River Ecological Reserve* protects a pristine west coast estuary. Additionally, the 660-hectare *Duke of Edinburgh Ecological Reserve*, a marine ecological reserve near Port Hardy, protects the second largest nesting concentration of sea birds in B.C.

In addition, the Ministry cooperated with the Nature Conservancy of Canada to purchase Brackman Island as a proposed ecological reserve.

This year, although three new reserves were added, the number of ecological reserves remained unchanged at 117, as three reserves were turned over to the Federal Government as part of the South *Moresby National Park Reserve*. At the end of 1988/89, ecological reserves contained 155,215 hectares.

Reserve Use

Forty-five permits were issued under the Ecological Reserves Act; 14 for educational and documentary use and 31 for research use in the reserves. One research permit was for Ph.D. field studies concerned with the ecology of the rare and endangered sea otter colony in *Checleset Bay Ecological Reserve* on the northwest coast of Vancouver Island. In addition, natural history clubs and similar groups as well as individuals enjoyed visiting ecological reserves to learn more about the

- *Preserve representative, rare or endangered ecosystems*
- *Scientific or educational use*

Managing Ecological Reserves

- *73 volunteer wardens*
- *732 reports published*

Volunteer wardens are important to management of ecological reserves. In 1988, 14 new wardens were added to the roster, bringing the total to 73 volunteers. Volunteer wardens monitor and report on activities in ecological reserves but have no enforcement powers. They are also an important liaison with local communities.

By the end of this fiscal year, scientists and researchers published 732 reports and publications regarding ecological reserves. B.C. Parks published a new descriptive pamphlet about *Race Rocks Marine Ecological Reserve* for public distribution.

Outdoor Recreation Services

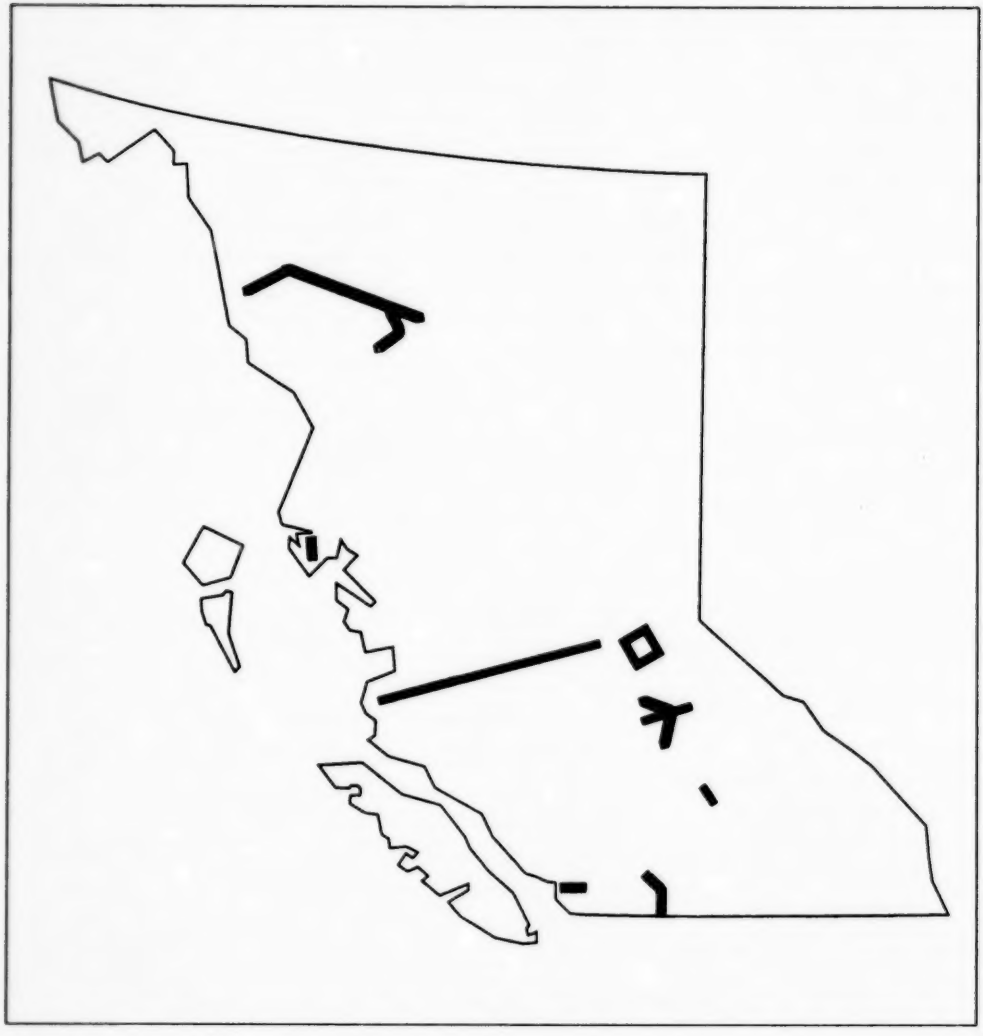
B.C. Parks represented the provincial interest in the management and allocation of the province's outdoor recreation resources and administered the Regional Park Act. It also coordinated the Recreation Corridors Program.

- ❑ *Protect public interest*
- ❑ *Review development proposals*

Recreational Resource Allocation Activities

Regional offices of B.C. Parks reviewed numerous resource development proposals, such as logging plans and industrial projects, to provide information about valuable recreation resources and the impact of proposed developments. For example, this year the northern region was involved in reviewing the Windy Craggy mineral development proposal in the vicinity of the world renowned Tatshenshini-Alsek Rivers river rafting area.

In addition, the "Inside Passage Cruise Ship Route" was studied to identify important visual and recreational resources. The information will be used in discussions with the Ministry of Forests regarding their proposed cutting plans, to identify potential marine parks and to discuss the possible registration of a new recreation corridor over the area.



Recreation Corridors
in British Columbia

Recreation Corridors

Since the Recreation Corridors Program was created in 1985, the Ministries of Parks and Forests have worked together to manage river- and trail-based recreation sites. Before a corridor is registered, the lead ministry consults with the public, the Outdoor Recreation Council and other interested parties.

To date, eight corridors have been registered. Six entirely within provincial parks and recreation areas are:

- Roderick Haig-Brown (Adams River),
- Bowron Lakes,
- Gidnadoix,
- Skagit River,
- Murtle/Mahood/ Lower Clearwater (Wells Gray Park) and,
- Upper Stikine.

Two primarily outside parks are:

- the Lord Baden-Powell Trail in the North Shore mountains, stretching from Howe Sound to Indian Arm; and
- the Sir Alexander Mackenzie Heritage Trail traversing the Cariboo from the Fraser River to Bella Coola.

❑ *Recreation corridors follow long-distance trails and rivers.*